

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A method for use in a wireless network to obtain requested location information regarding a wireless station and provide the requested location information to a wireless location application, the wireless network being associated with at least a first location source and a second location source for providing information regarding locations of wireless stations in the network, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a system for receiving location information from the first and second location sources, where the first and second location sources employ first and second location finding technologies for locating wireless stations;

establishing an interface for communications between said system and said wireless location application, where said interface defines a standard for requesting and providing said requested location information;

first receiving, at said system via said interface, a location request regarding said wireless station from said wireless location application, said location request requesting said requested location information in accordance with said standard of said interface;

storing data in memory accessible by said system relating to said first location input and said second location input;

second receiving, at said system, a first location input based on first location information provided by said first location source, and a second location input based on second location information provided by said second location source;

obtaining said requested location information by selectively retrieving data from said memory based on said location request; and

outputting said requested location information to said wireless location application in accordance with said standard of said interface, wherein said wireless location application is selectively supported by said first location source and said second location source via said interface.

2. (New) The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein obtaining requested location information comprises retrieving said first location input from said first location source and retrieving said second location input from said second location source; and combining said first and second location inputs to generate said requested location information.

3. (New) The method as set forth in claim 2 wherein said first and second location inputs and said requested location information are associated with first, second and third uncertainties, respectively.

4. (New) The method as set forth in claim 3 wherein said third uncertainty is reduced relative to each of said first and second uncertainties.

5. (New) The method as set forth in claim 1 further comprising:
invoking at least one of the first and second location sources via a wireless network interface to provide at least one of said first and second inputs regarding said wireless station.

6. (New) The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein receiving said location request further comprises receiving at least one specification regarding a quality of said requested location information.

7. (New) The method as set forth in claim 6 wherein obtaining said requested location information comprises obtaining location information conforming to said specification.

8. (New) The method as set forth in claim 6 wherein the specification defines an allowable accuracy of the location information.

9. (New) The method as set forth in claim 6 wherein the specification defines an allowable time parameter of the location information.

10. (New) A method for use in a wireless network to obtain requested location information regarding a wireless station and provide the requested location information to wireless

location applications, the wireless network being associated with a plurality of location finding equipment sources for providing location information regarding locations of wireless stations in the network, the method comprising:

establishing a first interface between the plurality of location finding equipment systems and a location manager, wherein said location finding equipment systems employ a plurality of location finding technologies and provide said location information in a plurality of different formats and said location manager is operative to convert said location information into a standard location information output format;

establishing a second interface between said location manager and said wireless location applications;

defining a standard request format of said second interface for receiving location requests from said wireless location applications, said request format including at least a wireless station identifier and at least one specification regarding the location information;

operating said location manager to receive via said second interface a location request from a wireless location application in said standard request format, said request and including said wireless station identifier and said at least one specification;

operating location manager to obtain responsive location information conforming to the at least one specification that is in the standard location information output format; and

outputting said responsive location information to said wireless location application via said second interface.

11. (New) The method as set forth in claim 10 wherein the specification defines an allowable accuracy of the location information.

12. (New) The method as set forth in claim 10 wherein the specification defines an allowable time parameter of the location information.

13. (New) The method as set forth in claim 10 wherein obtaining responsive location information comprises receiving first location information from said first location finding equipment system and second location information from said second location finding equipment system, wherein said first and second location information are received in a first format and a second different format, respectively; and

combining said first and second location information to generate said responsive location information.

14. (New) The method as set forth in claim 13 wherein said first and second location information and said responsive location information are associated with first, second and third uncertainties, respectively.

15. (New) The method as set forth in claim 14 wherein said third uncertainty is reduced relative to each of said first and second uncertainties.

16. (New) The method as set forth in claim 10 wherein operating the location manager to obtain responsive location information comprises invoking at least one of the plurality of location finding equipment systems via the first interface to provide location information regarding a location of an identified wireless station in the network.

17. (New) The method as set forth in claim 10 wherein operating the location manager to obtain responsive location information comprises retrieving stored location information regarding a location of an identified wireless station in the network.

18. (New) A method for use in a wireless network to obtain requested location information regarding wireless stations and provide the requested location information to wireless location applications, the method comprising:

providing a location manager for receiving location information via a first interface from at least first and second location finding equipment, each of said first and second location finding equipment being independently operative to provide locations of wireless stations in the network, wherein said first location finding equipment employs a first location finding technology and

provides first location information in a first format and said second location finding equipment employs a second location finding technology and provides said location information in a second format different from the first format and wherein said location manager is operative to convert said location information from said first and second location finding equipment into a standard location information output format;

establishing a second interface for communications between said location applications and said location manager;

defining a standard request format of said second interface for receiving location requests from said wireless location applications;

operating said location manager to receive, via said second interface a location request from a wireless location application in said standard request format, said request identifying a wireless station, wherein said location manager is operative to obtain responsive location information for said identified wireless station in said standard location information output format; and

outputting said responsive location information to said wireless location application via said second interface.

19. (New) The method as set forth in claim 19, wherein obtaining responsive location information comprises receiving first location information from said first location finding equipment and second location information from said second location finding equipment; and combining said first and second location information to generate said responsive location information.

20. (New) The method as set forth in claim 19, wherein said first and second location information and said responsive location information are associated with first, second, and third uncertainties, respectively, and wherein said third uncertainty is reduced relative to each of said first and second uncertainties.